

REMARKS

Claims 7, 17, 39, 40, 41, and 43 have been amended, and claims 11, 12, 18, 20, and 26 have been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, claims 1-10, 13-17, 19, 21-25, and 27-44 are pending in the present application. The claim amendments are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed, with no new matter being added. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

1. Double Patenting

Claim 1 has been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,424,033 B1 to Akram (hereafter “*Akram*”).

Applicant has submitted herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome this double patenting rejection of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 8 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 6 of *Akram*. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant notes that claim 6 in *Akram* depends from claim 4, which recites the limitation that the container is in contact with “the *inactive* surface of the flip chip.” In contrast, claims 2 and 8 of the present application depend from claim 1, which recites that the container is in contact with “the *active* surface of the IC chip.” Thus, claims 2 and 8 of the present application do not recite every limitation of claim 6 in *Akram*. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 2 and 8 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting be withdrawn.

2. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17, 19, 21-25, 27, 28, 34, 35, and 41 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,583,378 to Marrs et al. (hereafter “*Marrs*”) in view of the article by Hunadi (hereafter “*Hunadi*”). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claims 17 and 41 have been amended to recite that “the container is in contact with the active surface of the IC chip.” Such a feature is not taught or suggested in the cited references and is recited in present claim 1, which has not been rejected over the art.

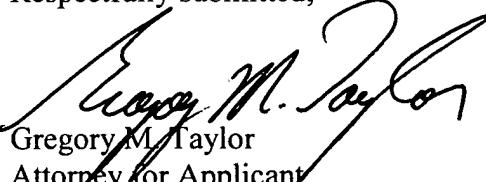
Thus, claims 17, 19, 21-25, 27, 28, 34, 35, and 41 would not have been obvious over *Marrs* in view of *Hunadi*. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present claims. In the event there remains any impediment to allowance of the application, which could be clarified in a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 5th day of December 2003.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory M. Taylor
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,263
Customer No. 022901